



## **NOTICE TO ALL WEST ALLIS DOG OWNERS:**

Updated: June 2013



Pet ownership carries responsibilities to the pet and to other residents of the community. Please familiarize yourself with all city and state laws regulating the keeping of pets, and be considerate of the right of others.

For easy reference, some of the more important regulations are provided below.

### **7.12(4) WASTE PRODUCTS AND FECAL ACCUMULATIONS.**

The owner or person in charge of any animal shall not permit solid fecal matter of such animal to be deposited on any street, alley or other public or private property, unless such fecal matter is immediately removed therefrom by said owner or person in charge. At all times when an animal is exercised away from the premises of the owner or person in charge, that individual shall have available for use, and prominently displayed, an appropriate device for removing, containing and transporting feces which may be deposited, until such feces can be properly disposed of by wrapping and placing them into an appropriate refuse container. The owner or person in charge of any private property shall not permit solid fecal matter of animals to accumulate on such property, including the space between the street or curb and the sidewalk adjacent to such property, for a period in excess of twenty-four (24) hours.

### **7.121 DOGS AND DOG LICENSES.**

#### **(1) LICENSES FOR DOGS.**

(a) Any person owning, keeping or harboring a dog more than five (5) months of age on January 1 of any year, shall annually, or within thirty (30) days from date such dog becomes five (5) months of age, pay in a manner provided by the City Treasurer, a dog license fee in obtaining a license for such dog.

(b) **The yearly license fee shall be twelve dollars (\$12) for each neutered male dog and spayed female dog, and twenty-four dollars (\$24) for dogs not neutered and spayed, except dogs kept in a kennel licensed under the provisions of Sec. 174.053, Wis. Stats., and dogs exempt under Sections 174.054 to 174.055, Wis. Stats. If the neutered or spayed dog became five (5) months of age after July 1 of the license year, the sum of six dollars (\$6), or half of the sum of the twelve dollars (\$12), shall be paid. If the dog is not neutered or spayed, the sum of twelve dollars (\$12), or half of the sum of twenty-four dollars (\$24), shall be paid.**

(c) In the event that a license tag issued for a dog shall be lost, the owner may obtain a **duplicate tag** upon payment of **six dollars (\$6)**.

(d) Upon payment of the required dog license fee, the City Treasurer shall execute and issue to the owner a license and a durable tag with an identifying number, county in which issued and the license year. The license year shall commence on January 1 and end the following December 31.

(e) Dogs must wear identification tags at all times when off the premises of the owners, except when participants in an organized show or training situation. The fact that a dog is without a license attached to its collar shall be presumptive evidence that the dog is unlicensed.

(f) The City Treasurer shall assess and collect an additional fee of six dollars (\$6) for each neutered male dog and spayed female dog, and twelve dollars (\$12) for dogs not neutered or spayed from every owner of a dog five (5) months of age where such owner has filed and neglected to obtain a license prior to April 1, or within thirty (30) days after the dog has reached licensable age, and all monies so received or collected by any collecting officer shall be paid to the City Treasurer as revenue to the City of West Allis.

(g) The City Treasurer shall not issue such dog licenses described above without proof of proper rabies shots. The City Treasurer shall not issue a new dog license for a neutered or spayed dog without proof of alteration.

#### **(2) KEEPING OF MORE THAN TWO DOGS PROHIBITED.**

(a) Except as provided in Section 7.123 of this code, no person shall harbor, keep, raise or maintain at any time more than two (2) dogs per building or dwelling unit in the City; provided however, that for the purposes of this ordinance, puppies shall not be considered dogs until after they have reached the age of five (5) months.

(b) A service dog, as defined in Wisconsin Statute Section 951.01(5), shall not be counted for purposes of this section if such dog is kept at a building or dwelling unit to assist a person also living at such building or dwelling unit.

### **7.12(5) ANIMAL BITES.**

(a) Whenever a dog, cat or other domesticated animal, or wild animal held captive, bites a person within the City of West Allis, and such bite penetrates or lacerates the skin of the person bitten, such dog, cat, other domesticated animal or wild animal held captive, shall be restricted to the premises of its owner, if within the City, or to a veterinarian's care within Milwaukee County, as a suspect rabies case for a period of ten (10) days.

(b) If during the restricted time, said animal shows signs of illness, lameness or paralysis, the owner or veterinarian shall immediately report such condition to the West Allis Health Department.

(c) During the restricted period, said animal shall not be removed from the restricted premises except to be placed under a veterinarian's care. No such animal shall be placed back into community living before it has been inspected and released by the West Allis Health Department. If the animal has spent the ten (10) day confinement period in the care of a veterinarian, upon its release, a veterinarian's report regarding the disposition of said dog shall be made to the West Allis Health Department.

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(d) In the case of an animal bite, the Health Commissioner may issue such other rules and orders which, in his judgment, are necessary to safeguard the health and welfare of any person suffering an animal bite.

**7.123 ANIMAL FANCIER PERMIT.**

(1) **Animal Fancier Defined.** "Animal fancier" is any person in a residential dwelling unit who shall keep, harbor, raise or possess any combination of more than two (2) dogs over the age of five (5) months and/or four (4) cats over the age of five (5) months, to a maximum of four (4) dogs and/or six (6) cats.

(2) **Permit Required.** The Health Commissioner may issue an original or renewal animal fancier permit upon submission of a completed application, payment of a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) and inspection of the premises for which the permit is to be issued. All permits shall expire on March 31 following the date of issuance, unless revoked for cause prior to that date. An additional fee of five dollars (\$5) shall be paid whenever the annual fee for a renewal is paid after April 1. No permit may be issued for any premises upon which three (3) or more dwelling units are located.

**7.12(3) CRUELTY TO ANIMALS PROHIBITED.**

(a) **Cruelty Prohibited.** No person shall cruelly beat, frighten, overburden or abuse any animal or bird, or use any device or chemical substance, except in connection with efforts to control species determined by the Health Commissioner to be a public health hazard or nuisance, if pain, suffering or death may be caused. Reasonable force, however, may be used to drive off vicious or trespassing animals.

(b) **Improper Transport, Abandonment Prohibited.** No person shall carry or transport in any vehicle or over any street, alley, sidewalk or public ground in the City any animal or bird so tied and placed as to inflict torture thereto, nor shall animals be abandoned for any reason within the City.

(c) **Food and Water.** No person owning or having custody of any animal or bird shall neglect or fail to provide it with necessary nourishing food at least once daily and provide a constant supply of clean water to sustain the animal or bird in good health.

(d) **Proper Shelter Required.** No person shall fail to provide any animal or bird in his charge with shelter from inclement weather to insure the protection and comfort of the animal or bird. When sunlight is likely to cause overheating or discomfort to any animal or bird, shade shall be provided by natural or artificial means to allow protection from the direct rays of the sun. Dogs and cats kept outdoors for more than one hour at a time must be provided with moistureproof and windproof shelter of a size which allows the animal to turn freely and to easily sit, stand and lie in a normal position and to keep the animal clean, dry and comfortable. Automobiles or garages shall not be used as animal shelters, except that during winter months a dog house may be placed inside a garage for shelter. Whenever the outdoor temperature is below 40° Fahrenheit, clean bedding material shall be provided in such shelters for insulation and to retain the body heat of the animal.

(e) **Leashes.** Chains, ropes or leashes shall be so placed or attached that they cannot be entangled with another animal or object, and shall be of sufficient length in proportion to the size of the animal to allow the animal proper exercise and convenient access to food, water and shelter. Such leash shall be located so as not to allow such animal to trespass on public property or private property belonging to others nor in such a manner as to cause harm or danger to persons or other animals.

(f) **ENFORCEMENT.** This section (7.12) and sections 7.121 (Dogs and Dog Licenses), 7.122 (Cats and Cat Licenses), 7.123 (Animal Fancier Permit), and 7.124 (Pet Shops, Kennels and Grooming Establishments) may be **enforced by the Health Commissioner, law enforcement (police) officers, or the Animal Control Officers of the Milwaukee Area Animal Domestic Control Commission.**

**7.126 DANGEROUS DOGS.**

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens and visitors of the City of West Allis by reasonable regulation of dangerous animals. A copy of the ordinance (O-2011-0084) is available online under the Revised Municipal Code or at the West Allis City Clerk's Office. A non-refundable twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee is required for an owner's or caretaker's contesting of any dangerous dog order. Said fee shall be submitted at the time of and with the written objection stating the reason for contesting the order."

**MILWAUKEE AREA ANIMAL DOMESTIC CONTROL COMMISSION**

**WEST ALLIS HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
7120 W. National Avenue  
West Allis, WI 53214-4774  
414-302-8600**

**3839 West Burnham Street  
West Milwaukee, WI 53215  
414-649-8640**

**WEST ALLIS CLERK'S OFFICE  
7525 W. Greenfield Avenue  
West Allis, WI 53214  
414-302-8200**